# CITY OF DELTA COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE PROGRESS REPORT # 5 INFRASTRUCTURE

#### Introduction

This progress report addresses existing infrastructure and current plans for improvements or expansions. The report includes roads and streets and utility services provided by the city: electrical, potable water, sewer and waste refuge. Other services are provided by the private sector, including telephone and cable and satellite television.

### Roads and Streets

In February 2000, DMJM, a transportation planning firm, completed an update to the City of Delta's major street plan and associated transportation studies and reports. Among this report's recommendations are a major street plan, a downtown multimodal circulation and parking plan, discussion of a truck bypass, and improved access to Garnet Mesa. Highlights of the report that may be relevant to 2007 include:

- ◆ The major street plan: this plan will be reviewed in more detail after the preferred growth scenario has been developed to determine the extent to which the street plan is adequate to serve new growth areas.
- The downtown parking and circulation plan analyzes the number of public and private parking spaces available in the downtown area and recommends strategies for reducing vehicular traffic, including:
  - Encourage more pedestrian activity by developing gathering places downtown and installing more benches.
  - Encourage more bicycling by installing bike racks at various city lots and private businesses.
  - Develop minibus routes that serve downtown, particularly to assist the elderly, handicapped and others who are unable to drive.
  - Develop partnerships with employers to encourage more bicycling (install bike racks and lockers for employees), use of variable work hours and carpooling.
- ♦ The report discusses the general location of the proposed truck bypass. Subsequent analysis by the city has determined that the most feasible location is the route displayed on Map 1. The final bypass design is scheduled for completion by 2009; right-of-way should be acquired by 2011; and the bypass construction should be completed by 2013-2015.
- ♦ Improved access to Garnet Mesa is analyzed and recommendations for road improvements are indicated on the major street plan map, which, along with the entire report, is on file at the City of Delta Community Development Department.

### MAP 1 PROPOSED TRUCK ROUTE



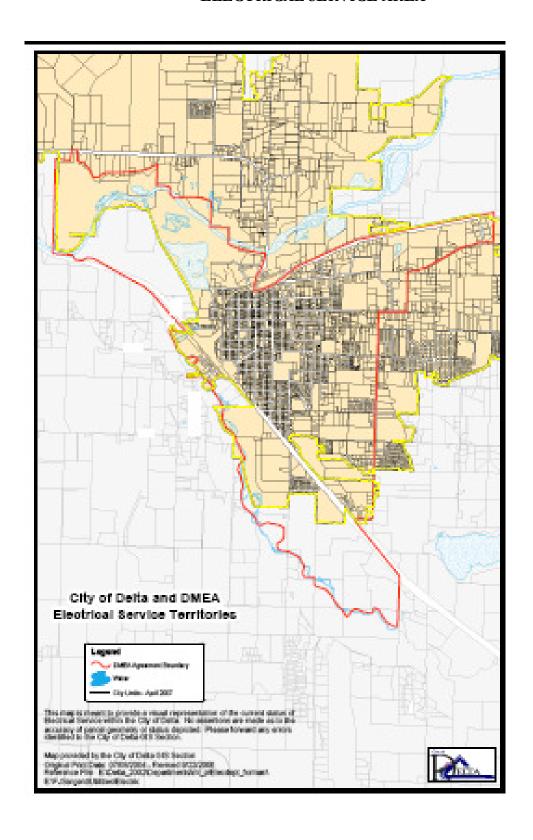
# Electrical Service

The City of Delta provides electrical service to some city residences and businesses. The city purchases power from the Municipal Energy Agency of Nebraska. The city also has an agreement with the Delta-Montrose Electric Association (DMEA), which delineates the area served by the city and the area served by DMEA. Map 2 shows the electrical service area of the city and portions of the city served by DMEA.

The agreement between the city and DMEA is nearly 20 years old and expires in October 2009. As shown on Map 2, much of the area within the current city limits is outside the city electrical service area, although part of the service area extends beyond the current city limits. The discrepancy between the present municipal boundary and the electrical service area is likely due to the recent annexations not anticipated when the current agreement between the city and DMEA was originally negotiated. The city will have an opportunity to include the area within the present city limits in its electrical service area when the new agreement is negotiated in 2009.

The city is currently upgrading the electrical transmission system. An additional substation and two distribution circuits are scheduled for completion by 2009.

## MAP 2 ELECTRICAL SERVICE AREA



### Sewer Service

The City of Delta currently provides sewer service to most properties within the city limits, although a few customers are outside the city limits. The sewer tap fee is \$5,100. In the western part of the city along the US 50 corridor, sewers extend only as far as 1400 Road. Existing city policy requires developers to pay for any sewer extensions to areas not currently served. The city does not have a pro-rating system whereby developers who pay for sewer extensions can recoup some of the cost when subsequent new development ties into extended sewer lines.

The capacity of the sewage treatment plant (STP) is 2.5 million gallons per day, and the plant currently operates at about 50 percent capacity. Under Colorado state law, planning for additional capacity must begin when an STP reaches 80 percent of capacity. The city is currently upgrading the plant to make it more efficient. Also, the city is doing a study to determine the capacity of the sewage collection system, and, according to the Utilities Director, it is likely that the study will find areas that need upgrading, which could result in enlarging or rerouting part of the collection system.

Based on state law, the city will have to begin planning for expanded STP capacity when the population increases to approximately 12,250, which would cause the plant to operate at about 80 percent capacity. If the city experiences slow growth (1 percent average annual) over the next 20 years, the current STP capacity will be adequate to handle additional effluent through the planning period of this Comprehensive Plan. If the city experiences moderate growth (3.6 percent average annual), the STP capacity will reach 80 percent before 2025. If the city experiences high growth (5.0 percent average annual), the STP capacity will reach 80 percent before 2020. (See Progress Report #2, Population Projections.)

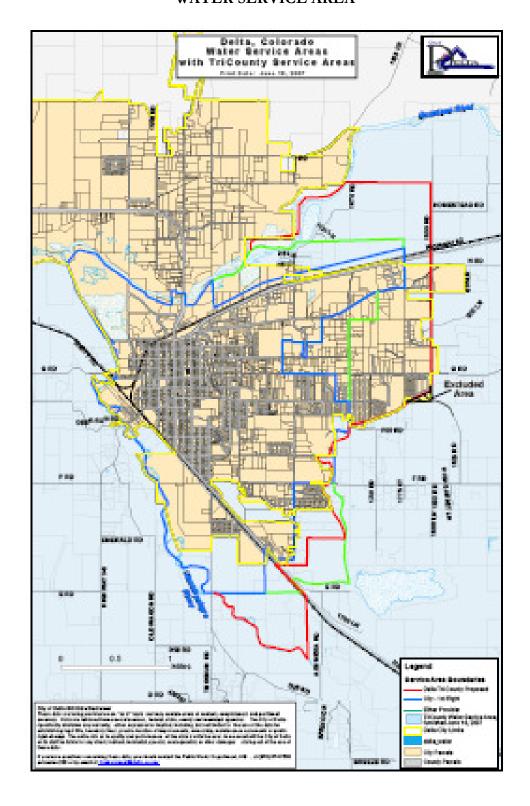
By participating in a regional sewer study, the city is already planning for additional STP capacity. The recently completed study encompasses much of western Delta County, including the City of Delta, Cedaredge and Orchard City. Approximately 55 percent of the county's population lives within the study area. The city is evaluating its options for participating in this long range project.

#### Water Service

The City of Delta has water rights for 3,700 acre feet. Current peak demand is about 1,400 acre feet. As shown on Map 3, the city limits has expanded beyond the city water service area, except for a small area south of the city limits that is within the city water service area. Areas outside the city water service area, including unincorporated parts of the county within the three mile plan area and areas within the city limits, are served by Tri County Water Conservancy District, which provides water to 315 customers within the city. The city has an agreement with Tri County, which expires in 2011, concerning the boundaries of their respective service areas. The city's water tap fee is \$1,400 for a <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> inch line plus a basic improvement fee of \$2,800.

The city appears to have enough water rights to sustain residential growth through and beyond the 2030 horizon of this Comprehensive Plan, even under the high growth alternative. However, one large industrial customer could tax the system's capacity, according to the Utilities Director.

MAP 3 WATER SERVICE AREA



# Waste Refuge

The city provides waste disposal service, although it is in competition with private disposal services in certain areas of the city. The city service area is approximately coterminous with the city boundaries as of 1993; residences are served exclusively by the city within this service area. For parts of the city outside the service area, residences have a choice to contract with the city or a private waste disposal service, but must contract with some entity. The city serves approximately 80 percent of the present city population. Commercial establishments anywhere within the city have a choice of contracting with the city or a private firm. The city now serves about 70 percent of commercial properties.

The city has an automated waste collection system. Waste is hauled to the Adobe Buttes Landfill, located about ten miles outside the city, which is owned by Delta County. According to the Utilities Director, the landfill has a large unused capacity.